



**CITY OF ROCKVILLE
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS**

**Adult Tennis Tournament Rules
May, 2013**

1. SPORTS DIVISION TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR
 - a. The tournament shall operate under the rules administered by the Tournament Coordinator
 - b. Duties of the Tournament Coordinator will include, but not limited to:
 - i. Consider tennis tournament rule changes.
 - ii. Determine player eligibility. Investigation of protests and initiating appropriate disciplinary action when necessary.
 - iii. General tournament administration.
2. TOURNAMENT FORMAT:
 - a. Each game will be decided by a three set match. If required (in each set) a conventional "12 point tiebreaker" will be implemented (games tied at 6-6).
 - b. Flexi format: After each round, players will have three days (fair weather) to play their next game. To play in the "flexi format" players will be expected to:
 - i. After completion of game players must (both competitors) report the result to the tournament coordinator, Duncan Mullis at: dmullis@rockvillemd.gov (pref.), or at 240-463-2479.
 - ii. The coordinator will give each player the name and contact details of their next competitor. In addition, each participant will receive a copy of the bracket which has every players contact details (phone / email).
 - iii. It will be each player's responsibility to coordinate a suitable playing time with their next opponent. Please include the coordinator (CC) in each email.
 - iv. The bracket gives the date that the game must be completed by.
 - v. It is very important to respond in a timely manner to these emails / phone calls.
 - vi. If a player does not respond to their opponent firstly, or the coordinator secondly (in a timely manner), then they will automatically forfeit the game after the three day period.
3. TOURNAMENT LAYOUT:
 - a. Participants will be separated by: age, gender, and ability. During registration please identify your USTA ranking / ability level, for example:
 - i. 2.5 or beginner
 - ii. 3.0 or novice
 - iii. 3.5 or intermediate
 - iv. 4.0+ or advanced
 - b. This is a singles only tournament.

- c. Each player will be guaranteed two matches of three sets.
- 4. SCORING – The scoring of games is traditional with ads (e.g. 15, 30, 40, deuce, ad and game).
- 5. FORFEITS – If a player is over 15 minutes LATE for the next game then they will forfeit that game automatically.
- 6. SELF-REGULATION – Play will be in the format of self-regulation, therefore the game will be officiated by the two competitors. If there is a dispute, players are encouraged to discuss and decide the correct port-of-call. If a decision cannot be made, then the point will be played over.
- 7. ATTIRE/WHAT TO BRING – Players will be expected to wear appropriate clothing for the tournament (see section 8). The City of Rockville will supply balls for the tournament and bring them to the opening round matches. Players are advised to bring sufficient fluids and sunscreen.
- 8. COURT ETIQUETTE
 - a. All contestants must wear shirts, shorts/skirts, and non-marking athletic shoes. Hats are permitted.
 - b. All contestants are forewarned that the throwing of a racquet in anger may result in a Sportsmanship Rating System penalty, which may preclude an individual from advancing in their respective game. Other displays of unsporting conduct may also be reflected in the Sportsmanship rating.
 - c. Please do not walk behind a court while play is in progress. WAIT for play to stop.
 - d. Any liquid brought into the court area must be in a non-breakable container with a cover on it. Glass containers are not allowed on the courts.
- 9. WEATHER POLICY:
 - a. Games will be cancelled in the case of poor weather and thus rescheduled. If there is no opportunity to play in a 3 day period then **the parameters of the tournament will change** ... fingers crossed for good weather. The coordinator will inform all participants of any changes e.g. extend the tournament, or increase the frequency of games.
 - b. The tournament coordinator will notify all players directly via email or phone if a match is cancelled due to unplayable conditions.
- 10. REFUNDS
 - a. Prior to the start of the tournament, any player may be refunded upon request.
 - b. Any player that drops out of the Tournament after the season has started shall forfeit their entire registration fee.
- 11. FACILITY RULES – No smoking or alcoholic beverages are allowed at City facilities, inc. tennis courts. Participants reported as violating this policy will be withdrawn from the tournament.

12. SCORES / STANDINGS – To check scores and standings online, please visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/recreation/sports; navigate using the following links: Adult Sports Table; and Tennis Tournament.
13. AWARDS – Awards shall be as follows:
 - i. Playoff Champion – individual trophy
 - ii. Playoff Runner-Up- individual trophy
14. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY – Players need *not* live or work in the limits of the City of Rockville to participate in the tournament.
15. WAIVER OF LIABILITY – The City assumes no liability for injury or damages arising from the results of participation in the adult tennis tournament. We strongly urge that each individual in the league have insurance to cover each individual appearing in every game and travel to and from each tournament game or that each player be covered by personal health insurance. At time of registration, each player will sign a waiver to participate in the tournament.